(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Foreign exchange earnings from exports

1999. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the foreign exchange earnings from exports during the last three years;

(b) whether the target fixed for exports have been achieved by Government;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to increase the exports of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) India's exports during the last three years were as follows:—

Year	Exports (US$ Million)
1991-92	17865
1992-93	18537
1993-94	22238

(b) and (c) No export target was set for 1991-92. The export target for 1992-93 was not met due to decline in trade with the CIS and other East- European countries; recession in industrially advanced countries; and domestic factors such as, disturbances in some parts of the country in the aftermath of Ayodhya incident. The target set for 1993-94 was achieved when export grew by 20 percent.

(d) Export promotion is a continuous process and steps are taken to boost exports in consultation with trade, industry and other relevant interests. Govt. has taken a number of steps to make the environment of policies and procedures more export-friendly. The measures include grant of Income Tax exemption on export profits, access to cheaper export credit designated in convertible currency and assistance to Export Promotion Councils/Commodity Boards for export market development.

Impact of Dunkel Proposals

2000. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of impact of Dunkel Proposals on Indian Agriculture subsidies, level of import content in consumption, scrapping of public distribution system, intellectual property rights and seed patenting;

(b) the reaction of Government in respect of each of the items mentioned above; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ameliorate their adverse impacts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) India has not undertaken any reduction commitments in respect of the domestic support to agriculture, nor has it taken any commitment on minimum market access. Thus the agreement does not affect our policies and programmes for the development of agriculture. The public distribution system also remains unaffected. No legislation on plant variety protection has yet been put in place. On patents there is a ten year transition period for the introduction of a full patents regime and there is no immediate economic impact.

The Uruguay Round results on the whole would be advantageous to us in increasing our exports.

Export of Indian products to countries needing credit facilities

2001. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the possibility of exporting Indian products to countries which have